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Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 SP-02 SS-15 ARA-14
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E.O. 11652: N/A
SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION - U.S. INTEREST FOR AFRICA

1. FOLLOWING ARE EXCERPTS FROM EDITORIAL-PAGE COMMENTARY
BY "DELO" NAIROBI CORRESPONDENT JOZE SIRCELJ APRIL 1:
HE (PRESIDENT CARTER) MENTIONED CUBANS BY SAYING:
"CUBA'S OBVIOUS INCLINATION TOWARDS REVIVING ASPECTS OF
COLONIAL INTERVENTION, WHICH HAS BEEN INTERNATIONALLY DISCREDITED,
CAN NOT CONTRIBUTE TOWARDS PEACE OR DEVELOPMENT IN AFRICA.
THE PRESENCE OF ABOUT 18,000 CUBAN SOLDIERS ON AFRICAN SOIL
ACTIVELY ENGAGING IN COMBAT AGAINST AFRICANS IS AROUSING FOR
IT'S NEOCOLONIALISTIC INTRUSIONS JUSTIFIED CONCERN AND CAN
INCREASE TENSION AT THE OTHER END OF THE WORLD."

2. UNDER SUB HEAD BRZEZINSKI AGAINST YOUNG, THE WRITER NOTES
TWO DIRECTIONS IN AMERICAN POLICY TOWARD AFRICA ... SOME WRITERS
ARE ASSIGNING ONE DIRECTION TO THE U.S. AMBASSADOR TO THE
U.N. YOUNG AND THE SECOND TO THE PRESIDENT'S ADVISOR ON
NATIONAL SECURITY BRZEZINSKI. THE DILEMMA IN THIS MORE
OR LESS BEHIND THE SCENE POLEMICS SHOULD READ: SHOULD WE,
BECAUSE OF SOVIET-CUBAN ENGAGEMENT IN AFRICA, ESPECIALLY IN THE
HORN OF AFRICA, TIE AMERICAN FOREIGN POLICY TO THE GLOBAL ROLE OF
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THIS SUPER POWER (THIS IS BRZEZINSKI'S THESIS) OR SHOULD IT
BE DEVOTED TO AFRICA AS SUCH, INDEPENDENT OF RELATIONS WITH THE
SOVIET UNION (YOUNGJS THESIS)...

3. WARNINGS DELIVERED BY PRESIDENT CARTER IN THE LAST FEW
WEEKS, SHOW THAT HE IS NOT INDIFFERENT TOWARDS THE
BLOCKS CUTTING UP THE HORN OF AFRICA. ON THE OTHER HAND

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IT IS ALSO TRUE THAT THE U.S. IN THE FIRST YEAR OF CARTER'S RULING, UP TO THE BEGINNING OF THIS YEAR, FOLLOWED MORE YOUNGS' THESIS....

4. AS OPPOSED TO PAST TIMES CARTER'S ADMINISTRATION IN IT'S FIRST FEW MONTHS ATTACKED PRETTY VIGOROUSLY THE APARTHEID POLICY HELD BY VORSTER'S GOVERNMENT. THE U.S. VOTED IN THE U.N. TO INTRODUCE AN EMBARGO ON ARMS AND MILITARY EQUIPMENT DELIVERIES TO SOUTH AFRICA. BUT IT IS AGAINST ECONOMIC SANCTIONS AGAINST THE RACIST REGIME. CARTER'S OPINION ABOUT THIS IS THAT IN THE U.S. "THERE IS NO CONCENSUS ON WHETHER WESTERN INVESTMENTS IN SOUTH AFRICA ARE SOMETHING GOOD OR SOMETHING BAD". THEREFORE WASHINGTON OFFICIALLY ADVOCATES A STRICT NEUTRALITY: THE GOVERNMENT NEITHER ENCOURAGES NOR DISCOURAGES INVESTMENTS...

5. ALTHOUGH SOME CRITICS IN AFRICA OBSERVE SUCH AN ATTITUDE TOWARDS THE RACIST REGIME IN SOUTH AFRICA AS A HALF-WAY ONE, ONE WITH WHICH THE AMERICAN INVESTORS WITH SOME TWO BILLION DOLLARS KEEP ALL THE PROFITABLE ADVANTAGES, NOT THE LEAST OF WHICH IS THE LOW EAGES OF THE BLACK IN SOUTH AFRICA, IT IS TRUE THAT CARTER'S GOVERNMENT IS STRESSING DISTANCE FROM VORSTER'S REGIME, WHICH MEANS A GREAT BREAK IN THE HISTORY OF RELATIONS BETWEEN THE COUNTRIES. NOT A TOTAL ONE BUT DISTINCTIVE ENOUGH TO TMAKE VORSTER NERVOUS..

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6. THROUGH ITS DIPLOMATS IN AFRICA, WASHINGTON MAKES PUBLIC QUITE UNAMBIGUOUSLY THAT NIGERIA IS AN AFRICAN SUPERPOWER, THAT THE ECONOMIC EXCHANGE WITH IT,AT LEAST QUANTITATIVELY, CAN COMPETE WITH THE EXCHANGE WITH SOUTH AFRICA, IF IT IS NOT SURPASSING IT. BUT ABOVE ALL THE NEW AFRICAN POLICY OF THE WHITE HOUSE TAKES INTO ACCOUNT NIGERIA,S POLITICAL ROLE IN AFRICAN AFFAIRS.

7. IN SECTION ENTITLED "CUBAN UNDERTONE", THE WRITER DISCUSSES REASONS FOR U.S. SUPPORT FOR PATRIOTIC FRONT PARTICIPATION IN THE RHODESIAN SETTLEMENT. SUCH CONSIDERATION OF THE PATRIOTIC FRONT HAS ITS BASIS IN THE REALISTIC, PRAGMATIC JUDGEMENT OF SEVERAL NEW PHENOMENA OF CONTEMPORARY AFRICA.

8. THE WRITER SAYS THAT U.S. POLICY TOWAD RHODESIA ALSO HAS A GOAL TO DO ALL SO THAT POLARIZATION WILL NOT SHARPEN TO THE POINT OF "CUBAN INTERVENTION", AS THE HELP OF FIDEL CASTRO TO INDIVIDUAL GOVERNMENTS AND LIBERATION MOVEMENTS IN AFRICA IS CALLED IN AMERICAN CIRCLES.

9. WASHINGTON DIDN'T RESPOND TO THE INVITATION OF SIAD

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BARRE TO GIVE SOMALIA DIRECT MILITARY HELP. "THERE WILL BE NO
WEAPONS UNTIL SOMALIA TROOPS MOVE OUT OF THE OGADEN, FROM
ETHIOPIAN TERRITORY", THE U.S. SAID SO IT HAS INSISTED
AND INSISTS ON THE PRINCIPLE OF TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY, WHICH
IS ACCEPTED AMONG MEMBERS OF THE ORGANIZATION OF AFRICAN
UNITY. THERE ARE NOW (AFTER THE WITHDRAWAL OF SOMALIAN TROOPS)
NEGOTIATIONS GOING ON BETWEEN THE U.S. AND SOMALIA ABOUT
ECONOMIC AND MILITARY AID.
CATHERMAN

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